1 2 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI 3 WESTERN DIVISION 4 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,) Case No. 20-00183-01-CR-W-GAF 5 Plaintiff, Kansas City, Missouri) December 7, 2020 6 7 DUSTIN M. JORDAN, 8 Defendant. 9 10 TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING ON CHANGE OF PLEA 11 BEFORE THE HONORABLE LAJUANA M. COUNTS UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE 12 13 **APPEARANCES:** 14 For the Plaintiff: Mr. David Luna Assistant United States Attorney 400 E. Ninth St., Ste. 5510 15 Kansas City, MO 64106 16 (816) 426-3122 17 **I** For the Defendant: Mr. W. Scott Toth 105 E. Park 18 Olathe, KS 66061 (913) 948-6682 19 Court Audio Operator: Ms. Traci R. Chorny 20 21 Transcribed by: Rapid Transcript Lissa C. Whittaker 22 1001 West 65th Street Kansas City, MO 64113 23 (816) 914-3613 24 Proceedings recorded by electronic sound recording, transcript produced by transcription service.

(Court in Session at 1:40 p.m.)

THE COURT: All right. Thank you so much, Traci. We are here on Case No. 20-00183-01-CR-W-GAF, *United States of America vs. Dustin Jordan*. May I please have entry of appearance by the Government?

MR. LUNA: Good afternoon, Your Honor. This is David Luna for the United States.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Luna. And for Mr. Jordan?

MR. TOTH: Good afternoon and may it please the Court,

Your Honor? Mr. Jordan appears by Zoom video and along with his attorney, Scott Toth.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you. All right. And so, we are here for a change of plea hearing. And the first order I need to cover is that I have a consent to entry of felony plea before a U.S. Magistrate Judge form, and it appears to be signed by Mr. Jordan and his attorney, Mr. Toth, dated with the date of December the 5th of 2020. I'll ask you, Mr. Toth -- excuse me -- Mr. Jordan, did you sign that document?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, I did, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. And did you sign it after you had a chance to talk with your attorney?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, I have, Your Honor.

THE COURT: And if you had any questions, did he answer any questions that you had?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, he has, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. And in this consent form, what it says is that I will be able to take your guilty plea as a Magistrate Judge under a local rule that allows that. And then I will prepare a Report and Recommendation to the District Judge for the final adjudication. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, I do, Your Honor. Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. So, did you sign this form voluntarily and knowingly?

MR. JORDAN: Completely voluntarily and knowingly, yes.

THE COURT: All right. So, the Court does find that this -- can't see it -- order. And so, it will be filed with the Court. And so, we will move forward with the -- with this plea. So, the Court has been advised, Mr. Jordan, that you wish to enter a plea to the one-count Indictment that charges you with being a felon in possession of a firearm, is that correct?

MR. JORDAN: That is correct, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. So, I need to ask you some questions under oath. I will ask my courtroom deputy to swear you in, and then we'll get started.

DUSTIN M. JORDAN, DEFENDANT, SWORN

THE COURT: All right. So, Mr. Jordan, do you understand that you are now under oath, and that if you answer any of my questions falsely, that you may later be charged and prosecuted for perjury or making a false statement? Do you understand that?

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MR. JORDAN: I do understand that, Your Honor.
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            THE COURT: All right. So, the first set of
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   questions I have for you have to deal with your competency to
   understand these proceedings and enter a knowing plea. So, we'll
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   get started on that. What is your full name for the record?
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            MR. JORDAN: Dustin Michael Jordan.
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            THE COURT: And where were you born?
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            MR. JORDAN: Olean, New York.
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            THE COURT: New York. And how old are you?
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            MR. JORDAN: I am 38 -- 36. I'm sorry, Your Honor.
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            THE COURT:
                        Okay.
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            MR. JORDAN: My brother just had his 30th birthday.
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            THE COURT: Okay. So, you're 38 -- 36 years old.
   far did you go in school?
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            MR. JORDAN: What's that?
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            THE COURT: How far did you go in school?
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            MR. JORDAN: Eleventh grade and then GED.
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            THE COURT: Okay. GED. So, are you able to read, write
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   and understand the English language?
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            MR. JORDAN: Very confidently.
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            THE COURT: All right. Have you been treated recently
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   for any mental illness or addiction to any drugs of any kind?
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            MR. JORDAN: Methamphetamines and bipolar.
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            THE COURT: And bipolar? I'm sorry.
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            MR. JORDAN: Bipolar, manic, Phase I episodes.
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THE COURT: So, are you taking medication for that? 1 2 MR. JORDAN: Since my release from DOC, I have not been 3 able to get back on medication with a stable doctor. It's one of my (inaudible) I'm trying to get to right now. 4 5 THE COURT: All right. So, without that medication, do 6 you still understand what's going on today? 7 MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am. 8 THE COURT: All right. So, I guess the question that --9 you are currently under the care of a physician or psychiatrist, 10 is that correct? 11 MR. JORDAN: Not at this time, no. THE COURT: Okay. But they're working on that, is that 12 13 correct? 14 MR. JORDAN: Nobody here is. 15 THE COURT: Okay. But that's the whole -- so you can 16 get back on whatever medications that you need for --17 MR. JORDAN: That's the intention. 18 THE COURT: -- bipolar and manic depression? Okay. All 19 Are you currently under the influence of any drugs, 20 medication or alcoholic beverage of any kind? 21 MR. JORDAN: No, ma'am. 22 THE COURT: And are you fully aware of what's happening 23 here today? 24 MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am. 25 THE COURT: All right. I'll ask either counsel, do you

have any doubt as to Mr. Jordan's competency to plead at this time? Mr. Toth?

MR. TOTH: No, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Luna?

MR. LUNA: No, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Based upon Mr. Jordan's answers to the questions, as well as the input from both counsel, this Court does find that Mr. Jordan is competent to understand the proceedings and enter a knowing plea. All right. So, these next questions have to do with your satisfaction with your attorney, Mr. Jordan. Have you had an ample opportunity to discuss your case with your attorney?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: And are you fully satisfied with his counsel, representation and advice in this case?

MR. JORDAN: Fully.

THE COURT: Okay. And has he done everything that you've asked him to do?

MR. JORDAN: Everything and more, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. That's good. All right. So, let's move on to there are certain rights that you are waiving, constitutional rights that you are waiving by pleading guilty. And no one can force you to plead guilty, not the Court, not your attorney, not the Government, not law enforcement. No one can force you to waive your constitutional right to a jury

trial on these charges. And this case will proceed to trial as scheduled, unless you enter a guilty plea today. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, I do, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. So, as far as your constitutional rights that you are waiving, you're waiving the right to plead not guilty and to persist in a plea of not guilty. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Say it one more time.

THE COURT: You're waiving the right to plead not guilty and to persist in a plea of not guilty. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: You're also waiving the right to be presumed innocent until your guilt is established beyond a reasonable doubt at trial because there won't be a trial. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: Additionally, you have, you're waiving the right to a jury trial, and at that trial, the right to effective assistance of counsel. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: Also, you are waiving the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses that the Government would have to testify against you at trial because there won't be a trial. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: Additionally, you would be waiving the right to compel or subpoena witnesses to appear on your behalf at trial because there won't be one. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: And additionally, you are waiving the right to remain silent at trial, in which case, your silence could not be used against you. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: And have you discussed your rights with your attorney?

MR. JORDAN: I have.

THE COURT: Okay. And with knowing all those rights that you are waiving, do you still wish to plead guilty?

MR. JORDAN: I do, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. So, do you have a copy of the Indictment with you, Mr. Jordan?

MR. JORDAN: No, I do not, ma'am.

THE COURT: Okay. But you've had a chance to review that with your attorney, is that correct?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: All right. And so, what I will do, I will have Mr. Luna read the Indictment to you. It's one count. And then also provide you with the penalties that are associated with the charges. Okay?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Luna.

MR. LUNA: The defendant is indicted in a single count of felon in possession of a firearm. It alleges that on or about July 24th, 2020, in the Western District of Missouri, the defendant, knowing he had been previously convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, did knowingly possess, in and affecting commerce, a firearm, to wit: a Phoenix Arms, Model HP22A, .22 long rifle caliber, semi-automatic pistol, Serial Number 4358311, which had been transported in interstate commerce, contrary to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 922(g)(1) and 924(a)(2). Felon in possession of firearm as charged is punishable by not more than ten years imprisonment, not more than a \$250,000 fine, up to three years of supervised release, and that is a Class C felony. There is also a \$100 mandatory special assessment for that count.

THE COURT: Thank you. All right. Mr. Jordan, do you understand the charges that are lodged against you?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. And let's see. Do you also fully understand the penalties that are associated with the charge?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Luna also indicated about the \$100 mandatory special assessment. And do you understand

that that \$100 is mandatory under the statute 18 U.S.C. Section 1 2 3013, and that you're responsible for paying that \$100? Do you 3 understand that? MR. JORDAN: Yes, Your Honor. 4 5 THE COURT: Also, he talked about the period of 6 supervised release of not more than three years. Do you 7 understand that if you're on supervised release and you violate 8 the terms, the court revoke your supervised release? Can you still hear me? 9 10 I can barely hear you over these guys. MR. JORDAN: 11 sorry, Your Honor. 12 THE COURT: Okay. That's okay. 13 MR. JORDAN: (Inaudible). 14 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. Okay. 15 MR. JORDAN: They want it open. 16 THE COURT: All right. So, we were talking about the 17 penalties. In the Indictment it has not more than three years of 18 supervised release. Do you know what supervised release is? 19 MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am, probation. 20 THE COURT: All right. So, similar to that. 21 MR. JORDAN: It's similar, yes. 22 THE COURT: So, after the period of custody, then you 23 would be on paper, as they say, for not more than three years.

MR. JORDAN: I do, Your Honor. Thank you.

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Do you understand that?

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THE COURT: So, if you're on supervised release and you violated those -- violate those terms, the court can revoke your supervised release, send you back to jail, and not give you any credit for any time that you'd spent on supervised release. you understand that?

> MR. JORDAN: I do, Your Honor.

THE COURT: And also, the court can add an additional time of supervised release even after that is done. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. All right. So, I understand that there is no plea agreement in this case, is that correct?

> That's correct, Your Honor. MR. LUNA:

THE COURT: Okay. All right. So, let me go over -- I quess I want to confirm with Mr. Toth that any -- I don't know if there have been any formal plea offers, but I just wanted to confirm that any -- if there were any, that they were conveyed to your client, Mr. Jordan?

MR. TOTH: There really hasn't, Your Honor, to be honest with you. But anything that Mr. Luna and I have communicated about has been passed on to Mr. Jordan. And I'm satisfied that he has all the information that I have received from the Government.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you. All right. right. So, Mr. Jordan, this offense, of course, is a felony offense, and if your plea is accepted and you are adjudged guilty, there are certain civil rights that you are waiving. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: Okay. So, I'm going to go over those civil rights that you would be losing. That is the right to vote, the right to hold public office, the right to a jury, and the right to possess any kind of firearm and ammunition. Do you understand that those are the civil rights that you would lose?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: All right. And I'm sure Mr. Toth has talked to you about the Sentencing Guidelines. Have you talked about that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: All right. And so, I know that he may have talked to you about maybe some calculations that he thinks will be -- about the guideline range that may be calculated in this case. Do you understand that those guidelines or those calculations by your attorney and the Government just simply, they're estimates? Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: Do you also understand that the District Judge will be the one who will determine what your guideline range is and also what sentence is ultimately imposed in this case? Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: And that sentence can be, could be more or less than what your attorney and the Government have predicted in this case. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: I do, Your Honor.

THE COURT: And the District Judge will go over a lot of information about you, about the offense that will give -- Judge Fenner -- which will give Judge Fenner the information to impose a sentence that is reasonable, based upon the facts of this case. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: So, the court will be looking at what we call the sentencing factors. That's under 18 U.S.C. Section 3553(a). It looks at the need to deter, to protect the public, to impose a sentence that is similar to others in a similar situation. Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. And I know in state court they have what they call parole. But you understand that there is no parole in federal court?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. And since you don't have a plea agreement that you are reserving your right to appeal certain things, I don't know if you talked about your (inaudible) with your attorney, but you are reserving the right to appeal your

sentence and (inaudible). Do you understand that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, Your Honor.

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THE COURT: All right. All right. Let's go on to the factual basis in this case. Mr. Luna, could you please provide the Court with the evidence that the Government would present had this case gone to trial?

MR. LUNA: Yes, Your Honor. I anticipate that if this case went to trial, the Government would be able to prove that on July 24th, 2020, at 2:30 p.m., a Kansas City, Missouri Police officer was working in off-duty capacity at the Walmart located on 40 Highway in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri, which is in the Western District of Missouri. The responding officer was notified by Walmart Asset Protection personnel that a subject, later identified as the defendant, had taken a flashlight off of one of the shelves, ripped off a tag -- a price tag and concealed the flashlight in his front pants pocket as he walked toward the front of the store. The defendant was stopped as he passed through the checkout area without paying for the flashlight. stolen flashlight was retrieved from the defendant's pants pocket by the responding officer. A computer check was then conducted, and it was revealed that the defendant had a felony Missouri parole violation warrant and several Jackson County municipal warrants as well. The defendant was placed under arrest for his warrants and for the stealing. A search incident to arrest of the defendant's person revealed a black pouch attached to the

front of his pants. As the responding officer removed the pouch, he felt a weapon inside, and the defendant made a statement acknowledging that there was a firearm inside the pouch. responding officer removed the gun from the pouch and determined it was unloaded. The handgun was identified as a Phoenix Arms, Model HP22A, .22 long rifle caliber handgun, with Serial Number The firearm was viewed by a special agent with ATF, who is a nexus expert, and he was able to determine that the firearm was not manufactured in the state of Missouri and, thus, had traveled in interstate commerce. The Government would also be able to prove the defendant's prior felony convictions and his knowledge of his felon status by offering certified copies of his convictions. Specifically, the defendant was convicted in Cause Number 07AOCR01304-01 out of Jasper County. It was a conviction for the Class C felony of theft on November 19^{th} of 2007. defendant received initially a suspended three-year sentence in that case. However, his probation was subsequently revoked, and he was sentenced to a sentence to serve that term of imprisonment was executed. So, he served a three-year sentence in that case. January 25th of 2016, in Jackson County -- excuse me -- in Jasper County, the defendant was convicted of three cases simultaneously, 15AOCR00254-01, for the Class C felony of receiving stolen property; in Case Number 15AOCR00793-01, for the felony of stealing; and, in case number 15AOCR01426-01, for the Class C felony of burglary in the second degree. And in each of

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these cases, the defendant was sentenced to concurrent five-year 1 2 sentences under the Missouri Department of Corrections' long-term 3 drug treatment program. Upon successful completion of the program, he was subsequently placed on two-year terms of his 4 probation. However, his probations were subsequently revoked, 5 6 and the sentences were imposed in all three of those cases. 7 That's all I have, Your Honor. 8 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. Okay. Mr. Toth, do 9 you agree that that would be the Government's evidence in this 10 case? 11 MR. TOTH: Yes, Your Honor, it's all true. 12 THE COURT: All right. And, Mr. Jordan, do you agree 13 with the Government's summary of what occurred? 14 MR. JORDAN: I do, Your Honor. 15 THE COURT: All right. And did you do what the 16 Government said that you did? 17 MR. JORDAN: I did. 18 THE COURT: Okay. And I'll just ask, Mr. Toth, if you 19 could just make a factual basis on the elements of this 20 Indictment with Mr. Jordan? 21 MR. TOTH: I guess I -- I'm sorry, Your Honor. 22 quite understand the question. 23 THE COURT: If you'll make a factual basis with Mr. 24 Jordan on these charges?

MR. TOTH: Did I make a factual basis?

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THE COURT: No, will you. I want you to do one now. 1 2 MR. TOTH: Oh, okay. Your Honor, yes. On July 24th, 3 2020, Mr. Jordan did go into the Walmart store in Western District of Missouri. He did --4 5 THE COURT: Well, do you want to ask him the questions? 6 Do the colloquy. 7 MR. TOTH: Justin? 8 MR. JORDAN: Yes. 9 MR. TOTH: Thank you, Your Honor. Now, I'm tracking. 10 I'm so sorry. Justin, did you hear this factual basis given by 11 Mr. Luna, the Government's attorney? 12 MR. JORDAN: I did, Your Honor. I did, Mr. Toth. 13 Sorry. 14 MR. TOTH: Okay. And, Justin, we have gone over the 15 facts of the case together, correct? 16 MR. JORDAN: Yes, we have. 17 MR. TOTH: And did the factual basis given by Mr. Luna, 18 is that accurate and correct? 19 MR. JORDAN: Yes, it is. 20 MR. TOTH: Okay. And in fact, are you pleading guilty 21 to being a felon in possession of a firearm because you were a 22 felon in possession of a firearm when you were arrested on July 24th? 23 24 MR. JORDAN: Yes, and I was. 25 MR. TOTH: Your Honor, is there anything else you would like from me on that?

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THE COURT: No, I'll just ask him just a couple follow-up questions. I just want to make sure the record is clear. So, Mr. Jordan, on July 24th of 2020, here in the Western District of Missouri, did you know that you were already previously convicted as a felony?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am, I was.

THE COURT: And at that time, on July 24th of 2020, did you knowingly possess a firearm, the one that is listed in the Indictment, the Phoenix Arms, semi-automatic pistol with that serial number?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: And do you agree that the Government would present evidence that that firearm was not manufactured in Missouri, therefore, it had to be transported in interstate commerce? Do you agree with that?

MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. I think that's sufficient. All right. Mr. Jordan, has anyone attempted in any way to force you to plead guilty or otherwise threaten you?

MR. JORDAN: No, ma'am.

THE COURT: And has anyone made any promises or assurances of any kind to get you to plead guilty today?

MR. JORDAN: No, Your Honor.

THE COURT: And are you pleading guilty because you are,

in fact, quilty?

MR. JORDAN: Guilty is guilty, yes.

THE COURT: And are you doing this of your own free will?

MR. JORDAN: I am, Your Honor.

THE COURT: So, I will specifically ask you, Mr. Jordan, as to this one-count Indictment that was returned in the Western District of Missouri on August the 25th of 2020, how do you plead, guilty or not guilty with being a felon in possession of a firearm?

MR. JORDAN: I plead guilty, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. All right. The Court does find that there is indeed a factual basis for the plea of guilty, and that you, Mr. Jordan, since you acknowledge that you are, in fact, guilty as charged in the Indictment, and since you know your rights to a trial by jury, you are aware of (dogs barking).

MR. HABIGER: Sorry.

THE COURT: And since you are knowingly and intentionally pleading guilty, the Court will accept your guilty plea. All right. And so, a Presentence Investigation Report will be prepared. Also, this Court will prepare a Report and Recommendation to Judge Fenner recommending the judgment of the plea of guilty. With the -- I think we have Probation on, Mr. Habiger is on, and he will prepare the report. You will have a chance to look at that report. Your attorney will review it.

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The Government will review it. If you have any changes or
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   corrections, you'll have a chance to do that. (Phone ringing).
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   Okay. If you all cannot resolve any changes or corrections,
   Judge Fenner will make the ultimate determination as to what
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   should be in that report. Do you understand that?
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            MR. JORDAN: Yes.
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            THE COURT: All right. Do you have any
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   questions about anything that we've gone over today, Mr. Jordan?
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            MR. JORDAN: Not that I'm aware of, Your Honor.
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            THE COURT: Okay. All right. I am going proceed to
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   cover -- you will continue to be -- you're at Caldwell County?
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            MR. JORDAN: Yes, ma'am.
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            THE COURT: So, you'll remain there, and I think that's
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   all we need to cover. Mr. Luna, anything else?
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            MR. LUNA: No, Your Honor. Thank you.
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            THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Toth, anything you can think of?
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            MR. TOTH:
                      No, thank you, Your Honor.
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            THE COURT: Okay. My staff, anything that I've
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   forgotten? Okay. All right. So, we will be in recess.
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   you, all. Please continue to be safe and be healthy.
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            MR. LUNA:
                      Thank you.
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            MR. JORDAN: You too, Your Honor.
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            MR. TOTH:
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            MR. JORDAN:
                         Thank you.
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                     (Court Adjourned at 2:06 p.m.)
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I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the electronic sound recording of the proceeding in the above-entitled matter.

/s/ Lissa C. Whittaker Signature of transcriber

December 10, 2020
Date